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The Washington Merry-Go-Round

By Jack Anderson

Hanoi's Game

An amazing account of how Hanoi is playing Russia and China against each other is contained in a secret CIA report in our possession. ✓

Chinese Premier Chou En-lai and Soviet President Niko-

lai Podgorny competed with each other, according to the report, to offer North Vietnam more aid.

The report is based upon the confidential remark picked up by the CIA, of high Foreign Ministry official named Hoang Muoi. Here are the highlights: ✓

"Muoi stated that Chinese Premier Chou En-lai has made a secret trip to Hanoi following the July, 1971, visit of Dr. Kissinger to Peking. Chou assured the DRV (North Vietnamese government) of continued Chinese support."

"On the subject of aid, Muoi stated that the Chinese, in order to convince the DRV of their continued support have agreed to give more aid in the 1971-72 period. The Soviets were thus forced to increase their aid in order to balance off the Chinese assistance."

"The Soviet aid agreement which resulted from Soviet President Podgorny's visit in October, was bigger than the 1970 agreement."

"Muoi said that during the Podgorny visit, the Soviet Union proposed a friendship treaty with the DRV. Muoi said the DRV refused the offer because it would have certainly antagonized China and, in any event, the DRV does not need such a treaty to get what it wants from the Soviets."

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